# WISVOTE ELECTION STATISTICS

FINDING THE PROPER BALANCE

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## TODAY'S PANEL

**Patrick Brennan – Presenter**

**Michael Nelson – Presenter**

**Sarah Statz – Presenter**

**Mikey Sabaka - Moderator**

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## WHY RECONCILIATION?

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## WHY RECONCILIATION?

**Federal Reporting**

Election Administration and Voting Survey

Election Administration and Voting Survey 2018 EAVS

Reported to US Election Assistance Commission (EAC)

Submitted by WEC on behalf of all jurisdictions

Six sections, 100+ data points for each municipality!

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## WHY RECONCILIATION?

**Federal Reporting**

Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act

Absentee compliance data reported by state

Reports submitted before and after elections

Improved data = fewer clerk contacts, quicker reporting

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## WHY RECONCILIATION?

**Public and Legislative Inquiries**

Data used to inform legislative actions, including funding

Academic Research

Voter List data (Badger Voters)

Inform future decisions:
ballot needs, poll worker staffing
4-year Maintenance & required voter audits

Improved data = More public confidence in election outcomes

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## POPULATING THE RECONCILIATION FORM

All fields are populated based on clerk-entered data

No data is "created" by WisVote

No data is directly entered on the Reconciliation form

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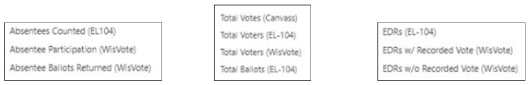
## POPULATING THE RECONCILIATION FORM

Parentheses = data source




WisVote = data tracked in WisVote election entities

EL-104 = WisVote Inspectors' Statement

Data from physical Inspectors' Statements

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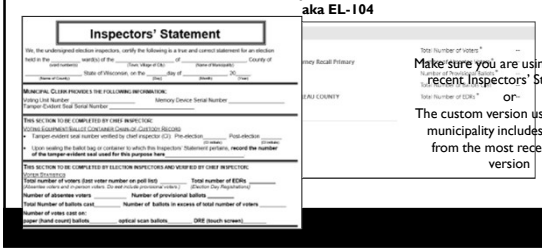
## POPULATING THE RECONCILIATION FORM

9

## POPULATING THE RECONCILIATION FORM

**The Inspectors' Statement**
**aka EL-104**


Inspectors' Statement

Make sure you are using the most recent Inspectors' Statement

-or-

The custom version used by your municipality includes all fields from the most recent WEC version

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## POPULATING THE RECONCILIATION FORM

**The Inspectors' Statement**
**aka EL-104**

VOTER STATISTICS
**Total number of voters (last voter number on poll list) 1 Total number of EDRs 5**
*(Absentee voters and in-person voters. Do not include provisional voters.) (Election Day Registrations)*
**Number of absentee voters 2 Number of provisional ballots 3**
**Total Number of ballots cast 4 Number of ballots in excess of total number of voters**

Field names in WisVote match field names on physical form

| | |
|---|---|
| Total Number of Voters * | 1 |
| Number of Absentee Voters * | 2 |
| Number of Provisional Ballots * | 3 |
| Total Number of Ballots Cast * | 4 |
| Total Number of EDRs * | 5 |

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## POPULATING THE RECONCILIATION FORM

**The Inspectors' Statement**
**aka EL-104**

**Number of ballots cast on:**
**paper (hand count) ballots 1, optical scan ballots 2, DRE (touch screen) 3**

Field names in WisVote match field names on physical form

| | |
|---|---|
| Paper (Hand Count) * | 1 |
| Optical Scan * | 2 |
| DRE (Touch Screen) * | 3 |

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## POPULATING THE RECONCILIATION FORM

**The Inspectors' Statement**
**aka EL-104**

**Handling typos/errors**

NEVER change a paper Inspectors' Statement after Election Day

Guidelines meant for entering WisVote Inspectors' Statement only!

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## POPULATING THE RECONCILIATION FORM

**The Inspectors' Statement**
**aka EL-104**

**Handling typos/errors**

If the error is a math or typographical error:
Enter the correct number in WisVote

Attach a note to the physical Inspectors' Statement

**Transposed numbers** **Incorrect definition**

**Statistics entered in the wrong field**

**Counting errors** **Blank fields**

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## POPULATING THE RECONCILIATION FORM

**The Inspectors' Statement**
**aka EL-104**

**Handling typos/errors**

If the error occurred at the polling place:
Enter the number from the Inspectors' Statement

Notate the reason(s) in the appropriate Comment field

**Duplicate or skipped voter numbers** **Wrong Ballot Style** **Poll worker error**

**Ballot jams or other ballots placed in voting equipment**

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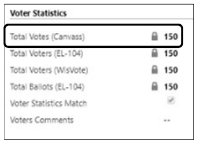
## POPULATING THE RECONCILIATION FORM

**Reconciliation sections**

**Voter Statistics**




**Total Votes (Canvass)**

Total of votes for all candidates in the contest with the highest number of votes

Currently: Loaded by WEC staff after state certification

Not a "hard" match – sets floor for participation check

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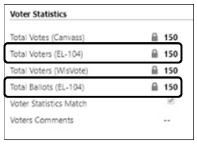
## POPULATING THE RECONCILIATION FORM

**Reconciliation sections**

**Voter Statistics**




**Total Voters (EL-104)**

From WisVote Inspectors' Statement field: Total Number of Voters

Ideally: Last voter number issued

**Total Ballots (EL-104)**

From WisVote Inspectors' Statement field: Total Number of Ballots Cast

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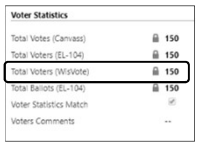
## POPULATING THE RECONCILIATION FORM

**Reconciliation sections**

**Voter Statistics**




**Total Voters (WisVote)**

Total of all voter participations recorded in WisVote Poll Book for associated reporting unit

At polls (including EDR) + Absentee

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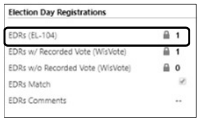
## POPULATING THE RECONCILIATION FORM

**Reconciliation sections**

**Election Day Registrations**




**EDRs (EL-104)**

From WisVote Inspectors' Statement field:
Total Number of EDRs

All voters who complete registration paperwork
at a polling place on Election Day

Does not matter if they cast a ballot!

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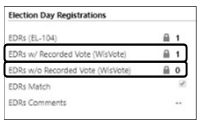
## POPULATING THE RECONCILIATION FORM

**Reconciliation sections**

**Election Day Registrations**




**EDRs w/o Recorded Vote (WisVote)**

Total number of Election Day Registrations
appearing in the EDR section of a WisVote poll book

Registrations with a Registration Period of EDR
and no election participation in associated poll book

Cast ballot on Election Day

All EDRs recorded in this section
had a participation deleted at some point!

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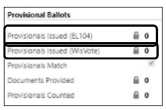
## POPULATING THE RECONCILIATION FORM

**Reconciliation sections**

**Provisional Ballots**




**Provisionals Issued (EL-104)**

From WisVote Inspectors' Statement field:
Number of Provisional Ballots

**Provisionals Issued (WisVote)**

All Provisional Ballots entered/tracked
Using the Provisional Ballots tile under an Election

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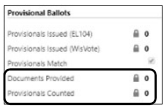
## POPULATING THE RECONCILIATION FORM

**Reconciliation sections**

**Provisional Ballots**




**Documents Provided**

All WisVote Provisional Ballot records
where Provisional Ballot Status field = Documents Received

**Provisionals Counted**

All WisVote Provisional Ballot records
where Counted/Rejected field = Counted

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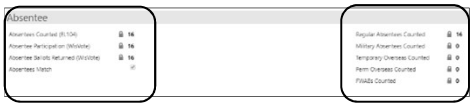
## POPULATING THE RECONCILIATION FORM

**Reconciliation sections**

**Absentee**

Absentee reconciliation section

Absentee Breakdown grid

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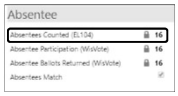
## POPULATING THE RECONCILIATION FORM

**Reconciliation sections**

**Absentee reconciliation section**

**Absentees Counted (EL-104)**




From WisVote Inspectors' Statement field:
Number of Absentee Voters

Does not include cancelled or rejected ballots,

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## POPULATING THE RECONCILIATION FORM

**Reconciliation sections**

**Absentee**

**Absentee Participation (WisVote)**

Total of all participations entered in WisVote Poll Book where Vote Method = Absentee

**Absentee Ballots Returned (WisVote)**

Total of all WisVote absentee ballot records where Status = Returned

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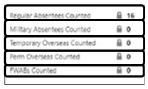
## POPULATING THE RECONCILIATION FORM

**Absentee Breakdown Grid**

**Regular Absentees Counted**: ballots marked as returned where Application Type ≠ Military or Perm Overseas




**Military Absentees Counted**: ballots marked as returned where Voter Type = Military

**Temp Overseas Counted**: Ballots marked as returned where Application Type = Temporarily Overseas

**Perm Overseas Counted**: Ballots marked as returned Where Voter Type = Perm Overseas

**FWABs Counted**: Ballots marked as returned where Ballot Type = Federal Absentee Write-In

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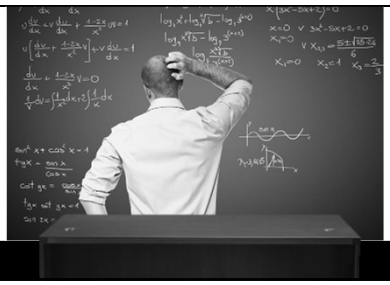
## WHAT DO THE NUMBERS MEAN?



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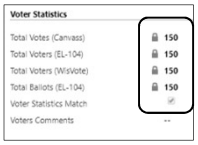
## WHAT DO THE NUMBERS MEAN?

**Voting Statistics**




Total Votes (Canvass) ≥

Total Voters (EL-104) + Provisionals Counted
=
Total Voters (WisVote)
=
Total Ballots (EL-104) + Provisionals Counted

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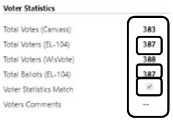
## WHAT DO THE NUMBERS MEAN?

**Voting Statistics**

**Hidden Check**




Provisionals not counted on Election Day won't be included in Inspectors' Statement

Reconciliation accounts for this by Adding counted provisionals to Total Voters and Ballots from EL-104

If provisional was cured on Election Day, use Comment field

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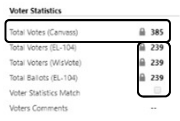
## WHAT DO THE NUMBERS MEAN?

**Voting Statistics**

**Why doesn't it match?**

**Total Votes (Canvass) > all other fields**




All participations not recorded:
Record participations and wait overnight

Canvass number incorrect (programming or certification issue?):
Cannot be corrected – Add comment &contact WEC

Inspectors Statement incorrect:
Comment or correct per guidance

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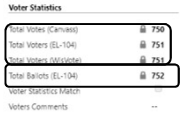
## WHAT DO THE NUMBERS MEAN?

**Voting Statistics**

**Why doesn't it match?**

**Total Voters (EL-104) ≠ Total Ballots (EL-104)**




Voter number skipped/used twice at polling place: Add Comment

Voter didn't cast ballot, ballot jam: Add Comment

Inspectors' Statement Typo:
Correct or Comment per guidance

Incident log invaluable to determining the source of potential Inspectors' Statement imbalances!!

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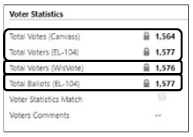
## WHAT DO THE NUMBERS MEAN?

**Voting Statistics**

**Why doesn't it match?**

**Total Voters (WisVote) ≠ Total Ballots (EL-104) & Total Voters (EL-104)**




Voter participation not recorded:
Add participation to poll book

Polling Place issue: Add Comment

Inspectors' Statement Typo: Correct or Comment per guidance

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## WHAT DO THE NUMBERS MEAN?

**Election Day Registrations**

**What's a match?**

**EDRs w/ Recorded Vote**

\+

**EDRs w/o Recorded Vote**

= **EDRs (EL-104)**

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BPT-EB

## WHAT DO THE NUMBERS MEAN?

**Election Day Registrations**

**Why doesn't it match?**

**EDR's w/ Recorded Vote + EDRs w/o Recorded Vote ≠ EDRs (EL-104)**

Number of EDRs entered in WisVote Inspectors' Statement is wrong:
Correct or Comment per guidance

Voters entered as EDRs in error:
Delete EDR participation and re-enter participation

EDR voters not entered/entered incorrectly:
Enter EDRs using EDR process in WisVote Poll Book

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BPT-EB

## WHAT DO THE NUMBERS MEAN?

**Election Day Registrations**

**Why doesn't it match?**

**EDRs w/o Recorded Vote > 0 when all EDRs voted**

An EDR had their participation deleted!
Track all EDRs where you delete participation!

Late registration entered as EDR

EDR entered in one reporting unit, participation marked in another reporting unit

**Contact WEC to correct record**

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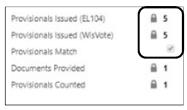
## WHAT DO THE NUMBERS MEAN?

**Provisional Ballots**

**What's a match?**




**Provisionals Issued (EL-104)**

=

**Provisionals Issued (WisVote)**

Documents Provided and Provisionals Counted are not used for match calculations in the Provisional Ballot section

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**Slide 34**

**BPT-E8** Late registrations not EDRs
Brennan, Patrick T - ELECTIONS, 03/28/19

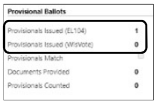
**Slide 35**

**BPT-E8** Late registrations not EDRs
Brennan, Patrick T - ELECTIONS, 03/28/19

## WHAT DO THE NUMBERS MEAN?

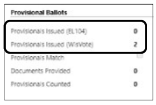
**Provisional Ballots**

**Why doesn't it match?**




Provisional Ballot not entered in WisVote:
Enter in WisVote

Provisional Ballot entered for wrong reporting unit:
Correct provisional record




Inspectors' Statement typo:
Correct per guidance

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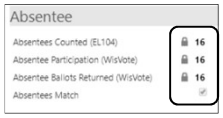
## WHAT DO THE NUMBERS MEAN?

**Absentee**

**What's a match?**




**Absentees Counted (EL-104)**

=

**Absentee Participation (WisVote)**

=

**Absentee Ballots Returned (WisVote)**

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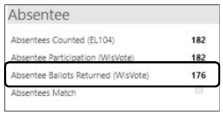
## WHAT DO THE NUMBERS MEAN?

**Absentee**

**Why doesn't it match?**




**Absentee Ballots Returned (WisVote) < Absentee Participation/Counted**

Not all returned ballots have been marked in WisVote:
Find unreturned ballots for absentee voters and mark as returned

Absentee ballots counted in wrong reporting unit:
Cannot correct in WisVote, contact WEC for override

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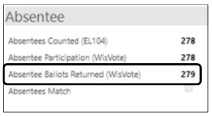
## WHAT DO THE NUMBERS MEAN?

**Absentee**

**Why doesn't it match?**




**Absentee Ballots Returned (WisVote) > Absentee Participation/Counted**

Absentee ballot marked as returned, but should not be:
Change status to reflect ballot status – Unreturned, Returned after Deadline, Rejected at Polls, etc.

Absentee ballots counted in wrong reporting unit:
Cannot correct in WisVote, contact WEC for override

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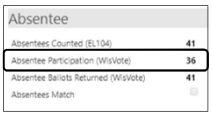
## WHAT DO THE NUMBERS MEAN?

**Absentee**

**Why doesn't it match?**




**Absentee Participation (WisVote) > Absentees Counted/Returned**

Ballots returned and counted, participation not recorded:
Find voters w/ returned ballots and no participation, record participation

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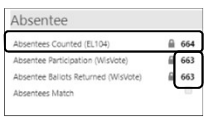
## WHAT DO THE NUMBERS MEAN?

**Absentee**

**Why doesn't it match?**




**Absentees Counted (EL-104) > Absentee Participation/Returned**

Typo on Inspectors' Statement:
Correct per guidelines

Returned ballot counted, but not recorded in WisVote:
Locate ballot, mark as returned and record participation

Absentee ballots counted in wrong reporting unit:
Cannot correct in WisVote, contact WEC for override

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## USING COMMENTS

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## USING COMMENTS

**When do you use comments?**

Only if the **Voter** or **EDR** section does not reconcile

**AND**

The source issue **cannot** be fixed in WisVote

Contact WEC Staff for questions about Comments

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## USING COMMENTS

**What is a comment?**

Comments are overrides!

Override takes effect during next overnight update

Overnight update ≠ staff approval

WisVote ignores any discrepancy in commented section

Staff may review/contact for clarification

**What should a comment contain?**

A brief explanation of a discrepancy

300-character limit

Should match the discrepancy

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## USING COMMENTS

**What should <u>not</u> be in a comment?**

No names of Voters or Staff

Do not explain a discrepancy from another section

No questions directed at WEC staff

No Comments if section reconciles

Avoid assigning blame – no Clerk Jail

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## USING COMMENTS

**Acceptable Comment examples**

| | |
|---|---|
| Voters Comments | **1 Voter in Wd 4 given ballot for Wd 3.** |

| | |
|---|---|
| EDRs Comments | **Ward 1 voter voted as an EDR in this reporting unit** |

| | |
|---|---|
| Voters Comments | **1 blank ballot found in voting booth was fed in to tabulator.** |

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## USING COMMENTS

**State Override Comments**

Must contact WEC staff for State Override Comment

| | |
|---|---|
| State Override | ☑ |
| SO Comments | **Absentee difference is for ballots from multiple elections** |

For issues in fields w/o comments that cannot be corrected in WisVote

WisVote Election Plan ≠ machine programming

Mass override used for 2018 General Election was an exception

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## ARE WE DONE YET?

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## ARE WE DONE YET?

**When is reconciliation "done"?**

Completed Reporting Units do not appear in Election Reconciliation Default view

Reconciliation is complete when all Reporting Units for an election = Complete

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## ARE WE DONE YET?

**When is reconciliation "done"?**

| Voter Statistics Ma... | Provisionals Match | EDRs Match | Absentees Match | Status Reason |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Complete |
| Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Complete |
| Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Complete |
| Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Complete |
| Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Complete |

Completed Reporting Units do not appear in Election Reconciliation Default view

Reconciliation is complete when all Reporting Units for an election = Complete

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## ARE WE DONE YET?

**When is a reporting unit "complete"?**

Voter Statistics Match = Yes **or** Comment is entered

**+**

Election Day Registrations Match = Yes **or** Comment is entered

**+**

Provisionals Match = Yes

**+**

Absentee Match = Yes

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## ARE WE DONE YET?

**Closing the Election**

Don't close an election before it's reconciled!

All absentee application & unreturned ballots will be deactivated

Post-supplemental dialogue no longer available for adding participations

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## ARE WE DONE YET?

**Complete Reporting Unit flipped to Pending!?**

Accepting Reg List Alerts w/o closing an election

Certain alerts will deactivate an active absentee ballot for any open election!

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## ELECTION STATISTICS GOING FORWARD

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## ELECTION STATISTICS GOING FORWARD

**WisVote Election Statistics isn't done**

Conducted Usability Testing March7th – March 13th

15 sessions over 2 days, remote and in-person

Several common threads of feedback & information provided

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## ELECTION STATISTICS GOING FORWARD

**WisVote Election Statistics isn't done**

Feedback is being reviewed for actionable improvements

After review is completed, we will begin to apply to future WisVote updates

Any changes will be implemented later in 2019

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QUESTIONS?

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UPCOMING WISVOTE WEBINARS

WisVote Absentee: Coming Attractions
April 30th 10:00 a.m.

WisVote Mid-Year Round-up
May 21st 10:00 a.m.

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